

## Working Waterfront Steering Committee

Wednesday, January 31, 2018 at the  
VIMS Gloucester Point Watermen's Hall  
& York River Oyster Company  
10:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

### Meeting Minutes

#### 1. Welcome

The Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission (A-NPDC) staff hosted a meeting of the Working Waterfront Steering Committee on Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> at 10:30am at VIMS Gloucester Point and at the York River Oyster Company. Those in attendance included Beth Polak, Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program; John Bateman, Northern Neck PDC; Lewie Lawrence and Jackie Rickards (via Webinar), Middle Peninsula PDC; Ben McFarland, Hampton Roads PDC; Curt Smith and Shannon Alexander, A-NPDC.

#### 2. Legislation Discussion

The following pieces of legislation were discussed.

##### Bill

HB1091 – VA Resources Authority – passed subcommittee unanimously

HB1092 – Dredging projects; tax increment, financing – passed committee unanimously

HB1094 – CBPA; regulations, local permit to raise land – assign to CCRFR to complete analysis of all statutes rel to SLR

HB1096 – Dredged material; fast-track permit program – 1 no vote, but Delegate ok now, through to Committee

HB1093 – MPCBPAA duties – passed committee unanimously

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### Bill

HB1095 – CB public water access authority; regional dredging – unanimously through committee

HB575 – VA WMF & Grant program – unanimously through committee

SB693 – VA WMF & Grant program – unanimously through committee

HJ69 – stricken from Docket, BUT, see SJ55

HB264 - Oyster-planting ground lease, transfer or assignment to locality - stricken

HB598 – Virginia Grown Label program; created, regulations – not passed

HB487 – Oyster-planting ground lease, transfer or assignment to locality – passed by indefinitely

SJ55, Working Waterfronts - recognizing importance in Virginia.

### Additional legislation discussed:

- Stormwater bills [HB1307](#) IC% and [HB1308](#) signed plan instead of review.
- Privatization of well/septic design services VDH [HB888](#) supported by HB885 and HB887. The A-NPDC and the ESVA Ground Water Committee strongly oppose these bills. They have made it to crossover.

Since Lisa Hull was unable to attend this quarterly meeting, discussions concerning the idea of a Century WWF program akin to the [Century Farm and Century Forest programs](#) were tabled until the next meeting.

### 3. Coastal Living Policy & Coastal Zoning Examples

Each PDC is to inventory which localities include reference to WWFs in their respective comp plans, so that they can be prepared to meet with localities later during the project year. Shannon is to prepare templates that can be used for this outreach, including: One-page comp plan language suggestions; Summary of legislative and zoning options for improving sustainability and economic success of WWFs; brochure for more

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generic/public education about living near WWFs.

#### 4. Additional Efforts for WWF

John Bateman led the discussion, which focused on looking at the recommendations identified in the 2016 WWF Master Plan in the sections “Coastal PDCs Actions, Coastal Local Government Actions, and Private Section Actions.” The point was made that much energy has been spent in meeting recommendations in the “Virginia GA Actions” section to date.

#### 5. Next steps and next meeting

The PDCs will decide who will be the lead for the third year of the WWF project. The focus will most likely be bringing all of the tools back to the stakeholders and educating them on how they can best be used in their Town/County/Community. The next quarterly meeting will most likely be held in conjunction with the Rural Coastal Virginia Ecotourism Steering Committee in the spring.